Identifier: Masaaki NISIKAWA

F-8815

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (New) A method for shipping an article from a sender to a recipient, and guaranteeing that the article has remained unopened in a period from acceptance from the sender until delivery to the recipient, comprising:

obtaining on a seal sender-provided information at a time of acceptance of the article from the sender;

copying the sender-provided information from the seal onto a verification sheet formed of a translucent material so as to permit viewing therethrough;

sealing the article with the seal and transporting the article to the recipient;

at time of acceptance of the article from the sender, superimposing the verification sheet against the seal; and

checking the sender-provided information on the seal against the sender-provided information on the verification sheet while the verification sheet is superimposed over the seal, thereby guaranteeing that the article has remained sealed with the seal.

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13. (New) A method for shipping an article from a sender to a recipient, and guaranteeing that the article has remained unopened in a period from acceptance from the sender until delivery to the recipient, comprising:

at time of acceptance of the article from the sender, superimposing a seal and verification sheet on a slip comprising a sender's copy, recipient's copy and shipping control slip so as to enable copying;

obtaining sender-provided information on the seal;

copying the sender-provided information to both the verification sheet and the slip;

sealing the article with the seal and transporting the article to the recipient;

checking the sender-provided information on the verification sheet against the sender-provided information on the slip, thereby confirming that the verification sheet has not been replaced; and

checking the sender-provided information on the seal against the sender-provided information on the verification sheet, thereby guaranteeing that the article has remained sealed with the seal.

14. (New) The shipping method of claim 13, further comprising checking slip-specific information provided on the slip for confirming that the slip has not been replaced.

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15. (New) The shipping method of any one of claims 12-14, wherein the article sealed with a seal is delivered to a recipient separately from delivery of a verification sheet.

- 16. (New) A shipping slip for guaranteeing that a shipped article remains unopened, comprising:
- a slip including a sender's copy, recipient's copy and shipping control slip, each being superimposed so as to enable copying;
- a seal for receiving sender-provided information; and
 a verification sheet for receiving sender-provided information
 substantially identical to that entered on the seal.
- 17. (New) The shipping slip of claim 16, wherein the seal is placed on top of the slip and verification sheet so that sender-provided information entered on the seal is adapted for copying to the verification sheet.
- 18. (New) The shipping slip of claim 17, wherein sender-provided information entered on the seal is copied to the verification sheet and the slip.
 - 19. (New) The shipping slip of any one of claims 16-18, wherein the verification sheet comprises a translucent material so as enable viewing

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therethrough, the verification sheet being superimposed on the seal sealing the article to verify the sender-provided information.

- 20. (New) A shipping slip according to claim 16, wherein there is provided a translucent cover seal affixed so as to cover the seal, and the cover seal breaks when peeled from the article for shipping.
- 21. (New) A seal set for guaranteeing that a shipped article has remained unopened comprising:

a seal on which sender-provided information is entered;

said seal being superimposed on a verification sheet, said sender-

provided information being copied onto said verification sheet;

the verification sheet comprising a translucent material so as to permit viewing therethrough, the verification sheet being superimposed on the seal sealing the article for shipping for verifying sender-provided information.